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THE PALACE OF EZE NDI IGBO GHANA REPUBLIC OF GHANA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE WE REMAIN LOYAL TO OUR HOST NATION, GHANA

The Palace of Eze Ndigbo Ghana wishes to address recent concerns and clarify the position of Dr. Chukwudi Ihenetu, also known as Eze Ndigbo 1, within the context of Ghanaian traditional authority.

It has come to our attention that the title and role of Dr. Ihenetu as the leader of the Igbo community in Ghana have been a subject of discussion, particularly regarding his designation as "king." We understand these concerns and wish to assure all Ghanaians, especially our revered traditional authorities, of our profound respect for the laws and customs of Ghana.

The title "Eze" is an Igbo word meaning "king" or "monarch." It is a traditional designation within the Igbo cultural system, signifying a leader. It is crucial to understand that Dr. Chukwudi Ihenetu did not self-proclaim this title in Ghana. Instead, he was nominated and duly coronated by recognized kingmakers in Nigeria, who traveled to Ghana specifically for his installation as the leader of the Igbo community here. It is important to note that the kingmakers of Nigeria crowned Dr. Chukwudi Ihenetu as Eze in consultation with Igbo leaders in Ghana, thereby solidifying his legitimacy.

We want to emphatically state that Dr. Ihenetu, and by extension, the entire Igbo community in Ghana, has no intention of undermining the revered traditional authority in Ghana. Having resided in Ghana for close to three decades and being happily married to a Ghanaian, Dr. Ihenetu holds immense respect and admiration for the Ghanaian people and their rich cultural heritage.

We are fully aware of and committed to adhering to the laws of Ghana, including Article 60, Clause 1 of the Chieftaincy Act. At no point will Dr. Ihenetu refer to himself as "king" within the Ghanaian context, in recognition of and deep respect for Ghana's established chieftaincy institution. We have consistently demonstrated our loyalty and adherence to Ghana's high-profile traditional structure since 2012, and we remain steadfast in our commitment to upholding the constitutional powers and authority of the Republic of Ghana.

We urge all individuals to remain calm and be reassured of our unwavering commitment to being lawabiding and responsible in fulfilling our mandate as the leadership of the Igbo community in Ghana, West Africa. Our core objective is to foster the well-being of the Igbo community while coexisting peacefully and respectfully within the Ghanaian society.

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> EZE. DR. AMB. CHUKWUDI. J. IHENETU (EZE OHAZURUMEE) EZE NDI IGBO GHANA THE DIASPORA TRADITION AND CULTURAL LEADER OF IGBO COMMUNITY IN GHANA.



